

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer).—Yes He has pointed out that fact. He has communicated to Government about another scheme at Naduthodu which has already been investigated.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്. പണിക്കർ (*Ezhuvas North*).— കരുവ നൂർ ബണ്ട് ഏതുകാലത്താണ് കെട്ടി അടക്കാൻ പതിവ്?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer).—I cannot remember the exact date. It is somewhere in Vrischigam.

**Mr. Neelakandan—Water Works Superintendent—
Transfer of.**

157. Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (Anthikad).—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

- (1) whether Mr. Neelakandan, Water Works Superintendent, was transferred as Boiler Inspector;
- (2) who is the present Water Works Superintendent;
- (3) the pay that Mr. Neelakandan was drawing
 - (a) as Water Works-Superintendent;
 - (b) as Boiler Inspector?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer).—

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Mr. Kumarankutty Menon.
- (3) (a) Rs. 160.
- (b) Rs. 100.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (Anthikad).—May I know, Sir, what was the salary attached to the post of the Boiler Inspector before Mr. Neelakantan was transferred to that post.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer).—It was in the grade of Rs. 150—200.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (Anthikad).—May I know, Sir, on what date this salary was reduced to Rs. 100—150?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer).—It was proposed to reduce the pay of the Boiler Inspector when he was transferred to that post.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Anthikad*).—May I know, Sir, whether the reduction of the salary was in pursuance of any recommendation made by the retrenchment Committee?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (*Chief Engineer*).—No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Wadakkancheri*).—May I know how long had he been in the post of 150 to 200?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (*Chief Engineer*).—For about a year.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Anthikad*).—May I know, Sir, whether the Chief Engineer had reported to the Government one month previous to this arrangement that no further retrenchment is possible in the Engineering Department?

Mr. President.—The recommendations of Heads of Departments are confidential.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Wadakkancheri*).—May I know what was the reason for the reduction of the pay of that officer?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (*Chief Engineer*).—It was thought that the post of the Boiler Inspector as it is at present need not carry such a high pay. Formerly it was under a non-technical head of the Department viz., the District Magistrate but now it has been transferred under the direct supervision of the Mechanical Assistant Engineer and therefore it was not thought necessary to have the same grade of pay as was originally fixed. That was one of the reasons why it was reduced. Again with the growth of electricity some of the larger mills have turned from boilers to electricity and the work has been considerably reduced. For these reasons the Government thought desirable to reduce the pay of the Boiler Inspector.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Wadakkancheri*).—Are there no grounds other than the two just now mentioned?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (*Chief Engineer*).—No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Wadakkancheri*).—Certainly?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (*Chief Engineer*).—Yes. As a matter of fact the proposal for reducing the pay of the Boiler Inspector has been pending for a considerable length

of time. Mr. Kumarankutty Menon was the permanent holder of the post and unless he was given some other post it was not possible to reduce the pay of the Boiler Inspector.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (Anthikad).—May I know the number of factories he has to visit?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer).—I want notice.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (Anthikad).—May I know whether the work of the Boiler Inspector has not considerably increased since the enactment of the New Boilers Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer).—The Boiler Inspector is a technical person and so far as his technical work is concerned it has been considerably reduced.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (Anthikad).—May I know, Sir, whether the article in the Mathrubhumi dated 14th December 1937, viz., 'അ മിത്തത്തിന്റെ രാജ്യഭാരം; കൊച്ചിയിലെ പൊറ്റുതികെട്ട്' and the sub-leader of that paper had much criticised that Mr. Nee-lakantan was transferred and his pay was reduced on account of the fact that he did not observe pollution towards the Santhi at Chewara? Has this been brought to the notice of the Government?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer).—Personally I have not read that paper.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Wadakkancheri).—Has it been brought to the notice of the Government?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (Secretary to Government).—Yes.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (Anthikad).—Has it been contradicted in any of the papers?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (Secretary to Government).—It was not thought necessary to contradict it because it was absolutely false.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Wadakkancheri).—False information should really be contradicted.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (Secretary to Government).—Not all.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Wadakkancheri*).—Because that certain officer did not observe pollution he was transferred; is it not a serious allegation against the Government?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*).—The proceedings fixing the pay of the Boiler Inspector have been published in the Gazette.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Wadakkancheri*).—Has this been contradicted? Is it not a serious allegation against a Government, a modern Government, a civilised Government, especially the neighbour of Travancore?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*).—Because it was not thought necessary to contradict it. Every statement is not contradicted.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Wadakkancheri*).—A serious allegation which really goes against the fair name of our Government has been made in one of the leading papers. If really they are false then is it not the duty of the Government to contradict it? Now we have got a special officer to do that work.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*).—Sometimes such things become too common so that we have to ignore them. So far as this allegation is concerned, whether it is serious or not is a matter of opinion.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Urakam*).—Is the Government aware that on account of this article the feelings of a very large section of the people of Cochin, viz., the untouchables and unapproachables, have been wounded?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*).—I am not aware of that.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon (*Adur*).—Will the Government contradict it at least hereafter?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*).—The reasons have been given here as to why the pay was reduced.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Wadakkancheri*).—Will you be pleased to publish it in the papers so that people who are not here may understand the real position of the Government and may dispel any feeling that they entertain in their minds?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (*Secretary to Government*).— I think that the proceedings that are actually taking place here appear in almost all the papers.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Wadakkancheri*).— You don't allow these things to be published as a whole, for instance a speech is not allowed to be re-published?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ (*Ezhuvas North*).— ഈ ലേഖനം ആദ്യം അന്യരാജ്യക്കാരുടെയിടയിൽ ഇത്ര പരിഷ്കൃതമായ കൊച്ചി യെപ്പറ്റി ഒരു ഭ്രഷ്ട്വേതങ്ങളാകുമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറു ധരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കുഞ്ഞുനായർ (*Secretary to Government*).— ധരിച്ചിട്ടില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി (*Anthikad*).— ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ആക്ഷേപങ്ങളെല്ലാം ഉണ്ടാകാതിരിക്കാൻവേണ്ടി അധിത്തത്തെ ഇല്ലാതാക്കാനുള്ള ഒരു വിളംബരം ഉണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറു ശുപാർശചെയ്യാമോ?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Wadakkancheri*).— In the light of these remarks I would make a request that a statement contradicting such allegation be made by the Government. I appeal to you not only as the President of this House but also as the Diwan.

Mr. President.—What better forum for publicity can be thought of than to make a statement on the floor of this House? Mr. Neelakantan is a permanent employee in the Public Works Department on a grade of Rs. 80-100. It was purely by some accident that he happened to officiate in the grade of Rs. 150-200. Later on certain administrative changes had to be made. The pay of the Boiler Inspector was amongst other things engaging the attention of the Government and it was decided that the pay of the Inspector should be reduced to the scale of 100-150. It could not be done because a certain gentleman who was holding that post was drawing 150-200. An opportunity came to provide for him otherwise and the pay of this post was reduced to 100-150. We permitted the man who was drawing a permanent pay of Rs. 80-100 to hold a post on Rs. 100-150. I do not know how it is a punishment to him. Far from being a punishment it is a promotion for him. To say that he has been punished is a black lie.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty (*Anthikad*).— When the question of reducing the pay of the Boiler Inspector was pending before the Government why did not the Chief Engineer

give evidence before the retrenchment committee that there is a post of which the pay could be reduced?

**Appointment—Sergeants in the Reserve Police—
Rules regarding.**

158. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Wadakkancheri).—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether there is not a rule or practice that only young and very energetic men will be entertained as Sergeants in the Reserve Police;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, whether the said rule or practice had been deviated from either in 1111 or 1112?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (Commissioner of Police).—(a) No.

(b) No answer is required in view of the answer to (a).

Mr. P. Govinda Menon (Adur).—Does the Police Commissioner mean to say that the practice is against energetic young men being recruited to the Police Department?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (Commissioner of Police).—Government do not think that only young men are energetic.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Wadakkancheri).—Is there not a circular to the effect that only energetic men will be recruited to the reserve police?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (Commissioner of Police).—If the Hon'ble Member is pleased to amend that question like that I will answer Yes.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ (Ezhuvas North).—സർ ജൻറസിനെ നിയമിക്കുന്നത് എന്തിനെ അടിസ്ഥാനപ്പെടുത്തിയാണ്?

Mr. A. L. Devassy (Commissioner of Police).—I refer the Hon'ble Member's attention to the Police Manual.

Murder cases—1112—Particulars regarding.

159. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (Nellayi).—Will the Government be pleased to state:—